# 2022 Federal Legislative Priorities

#### **ECONOMY**

Rio de Flag Flood Control Project - Utilizing the \$52 million in secured funding, support expedited award and completion of the project while working with the Army Corps, BNSF Railway and the Arizona Dept. of Transportation to ultimately remove more than half of the City's residents, as well as the downtown and NAU areas, from the flood plain and protect more than \$1 billion in property assets.

**Social Investment**: Support legislation and funding to improve childcare and early childhood education, as well as strengthen workforce development initiatives including job training, internships, reskilling and apprenticeship programs.

## TRANSPORTATION & INFASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) - Pursue competitive grants and formula funds from the IIJA to finance high-priority infrastructure projects within the City, including resilient stormwater infrastructure, multi-modal transportation, roads, bridges, highways, and restoration initiatives for the Museum Fire burn scar area. Support the infrastructure, connectivity and community needs of the City's indigenous partners.

**Water Infrastructure** – Utilize funding dedicated by the IIJA to complement and improve City water infrastructure.

**Rural Broadband** – Utilize funding dedicated by the IIJA for rural broadband access and capacity to encourage and develop economic activity, including allowing for remote education, business attraction, revenue creation and the attraction of remote workers.

Flagstaff Pulliam Airport – Advocate for funding for projects included in the Flagstaff Pulliam Airport five-year Capital Improvement Program, including a new Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) building.

Amtrak – Utilize funding dedicated by the IIJA to increase reliability and certainty along the Southwest Chief line for long-distance passenger train services as a generator of economic development for municipalities located in the I-40 corridor.

### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Affordable Housing** – Promote additional funding of Public Housing, the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

**Immigration Reform** – Advocate for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and other federal immigration policies that help keep families together while supporting their higher education goals.

**Veterans** - Support legislation and funding that improves the lives of all veterans and their families while emphasizing the need for additional housing vouchers for veterans.

**Gun Violence** – Support legislation that ensures the protection of all people from gun violence.

**Census** – Advocate for funding and assistance in performing special enumerations to address undercounts and deficiencies of the 2020 Census.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Grand Canyon and Colorado Plateau Protection - Support Chairman Grijalva's legislation preventing uranium mining in areas surrounding Grand Canyon National Park and strengthen the laws, regulations and policies that govern uranium mining to ensure protection for public health and safety; support efforts to instate a permanent ban on uranium mining for the nearly one million acres around the Grand Canyon. Protect the wilderness, wildlife and cultural resources throughout the Southwest region.

**Uranium Transport Standards** – Urge the Arizona Dept. of Transportation and/or the US Dept. of Transportation to strengthen uranium transport standards to reduce the possibility of contamination.

Forest Health – Utilize funding from the United States Forest Service, the IIJA, and other legislation to support important regional projects such as the Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project (FWPP), the Four Forests Restoration Initiative (4FRI), NAU's Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI) and the Fire Learning Network (FLN) to thin and restore forests. Advocate for collaborative prescribed fire efforts that support the development of a technically skilled workforce.

Climate Action: Support legislation and funding to address the impacts of climate change, increase resiliency, invest in alternative energies and achieve carbon neutrality. Advocate for carbon fee and dividend legislation, among other strategies, to effect lasting and equitable change.

Environmental Funding and Partnership – Support federal funding and partnership opportunities to expand open space, parks, natural areas, trails and "dark skies" initiatives across northern Arizona.

Endangered Species Act – Protect and strengthen the Endangered Species Act and encourage Congress to maintain its funding and enforcement while working to promote the restoration of threatened and endangered species in northern Arizona.